

Oklahoma has made a poor bid for statehood by allowing her towns and cities to go democratic at their first election. Had Oklahoma shown signs of being safely republican there would be less republican opposition to statehood when the matter comes up before congress. By going democratic Oklahoma affords the republican managers an opportunity to renew their old cry of "rotten borough." A brief glance backward will show that the republican party has never been slow in admitting a territory to statehood when assured that the new state would go republican.

The Charleston exposition is the next one on the list, and in addition to its worth from a standpoint of display it is entitled to consideration for another reason. It was started and carried out without government aid. True, government aid was sought, but it was not obtained. Nothing daunted, the energetic citizens of Charleston set to work to make the exposition a success, and the indications are that they have succeeded admirably. It will well repay a visit because of its worth and because of the fact that it is held at a time when those who go from the north will experience the delightful change from cold to balmy temperature.

Of course no one takes seriously the demonstration France is making against Turkey for the purpose of collecting a bill. Germany, Russia and Great Britain would not permit France to make war on Turkey. The sultan knows this, hence he is not at all worried, although he is making an opera bouffe show of preparing for resistance. The extreme jealousy of European nations is responsible for the continued existence of Turkey. Each is afraid that the other would get the big end of a division of Turkish territory, hence each is watchful lest the other make war on the Sublime Porte.

It is to be regretted that the promoters of the pan-American exposition at Buffalo failed in their efforts to make the exposition pay its Pan-American way. It is reported that the exposition will be considerable short and that bonds and stocks will be defaulted. Various causes contributed to the financial failure of the exposition, among them being the fact that people are surfeited with expositions and are waiting to attend the greater exposition at St. Louis. Another was the deplorable event in the Temple of Music when President McKinley was assassinated. But from the educational and artistic standpoints the pan-American exposition has been a pronounced success and the promoters have conferred a lasting benefit upon the people.

One cannot observe the various things happening in England these days without being impressed with the thought that unless something radical occurs in Great Britain's favor in South Africa at an early day, the British ministry will be confronted with a popular revolt. "Bobs," otherwise known as Lord Roberts, on whom a grateful country bestowed a liberal pension for his services in "conquering" the South Africans, is frequently scoffed at on the streets of London. Sir Redvers Buller, who was degraded by war officials, appears to be very popular in many sections. Many prominent Englishmen who had been silent for a long time, have spoken in strong protest against England's foolish policy in South Africa, while humanitarians generally have boldly denounced the barbarous methods employed against the courageous Boers. The chancellor of the exchequer has given timely warning that it may be necessary to increase the burdens upon the British taxpayers in order to carry on

the war, and in one way and another things are being said and done to show very clearly that the English public is becoming discontented and disquieted because of the prolonged struggle in the Transvaal.

While we have learned to look upon Sir Thomas Lipton as a model sportsman and have repeatedly assured him that he is a jolly good fellow, it would seem that he should, in justice to himself and to his employees, devote a portion of the money he spends for sport in paying living wages to his workmen. News comes from England to the effect that the men working in the Lipton warehouses have asked that their wages be increased to 12 cents an hour, and that the women have also asked for more pay. It is reported that Sir Thomas spent \$1,000,000 in his efforts to life the America cup. Doubtless he secured vast enjoyment in the effort, but he might have secured just as much if not more by devoting a portion of that sum to paying fair wages to his employees in the Lipton warehouses.

The death of Li Hung Chang is a severe loss to China and a severe loss to the world at large. There was a suspicion that Li Hung Chang was not open and above board during the "boxer" troubles, but this "Grand Old Man" is dead, does not outweigh the services he has rendered to China and to civilization. To him is due in large measure whatever of liberality China has shown in her intercourse with other countries, and his influence has doubtless prevented serious trouble on more than one occasion. His death, together with the recall of Wu Ting Fang, is not calculated to make the United States stronger in Chinese affairs. The recall of Minister Wu is based on the fear that he was becoming so intimate with Americans that he could not be guarding Chinese interests. As yet, China seems unable to realize that this republic is entitled to thanks for standing between China and partition.

The New York Mail and Express is still harping away on the old and exploded argument that the value of silver bullion in the dollar can be measured by the value of silver bullion that has no opportunity for coinage. The fallacy of the argument lies in the fact that it overlooks the increased value of silver created by an increased demand for it. The free coinage law, by giving silver access to the mint, would create a demand for it, and this fact, recognized by all who think, is entirely disregarded by most of the advocates of the gold standard. It was thought that the Sherman act of 1890, although it provided for the purchase of silver instead of its free coinage, would create a demand for all the surplus silver, and under the stimulus of this demand silver rose to \$1.20 an ounce, Secretary of Agriculture Rusk, in his annual report, pointed with pride to this increased value which the Sherman law had caused, and declared that agricultural products rose with silver. The Mail and Express, however, does not require facts. Its theory looks better when facts are kept out of sight.

In a speech recently delivered in London, John Morley said: "The government is aggravating the essential mischief of the situation in South Africa by its management of the concentration camps. The death rate of children, measure it as you will, is hideous, excessive, and appalling. The policy of devastation has been admitted to be a mistake. I wonder what Lord Palmerston would have said of a government justifying itself by saying that Russia in Poland and Austria in Bosnia had done something like the same. The war has entirely changed in character and is drifting into a war of extermination of a

people fighting for their own land. The policy of unconditional surrender and submission means extermination and annihilation. The present attitude of the government is one of sullen desperation. There is nothing worse than mettle in a blind horse. The king will perhaps at no distant date have to seek other ministers with a better insight and a more pliant mind in the face of the dangerous and complex situation which confronts the country." It is significant that many thinking men in Great Britain are exerting every effort to open the eyes of the British ministry to the folly of its course in South Africa. It is strange that there are any men in any portion of the country who cannot realize that Great Britain has assumed an enormous burden in the Transvaal, and that unless a change comes soon, civilization will stand aghast at the barbarities practiced by a nation that claims to be the leader in law and in morals.

An innovation in marriage proceedings was presented in New York recently when Henry Kellogg Williard and Miss Helen Wilson Parker became husband and wife. In stead of being attended by a man, Mr. Williard was accompanied to the altar by his "best friend," his aged mother. The proceeding was an unique one, and while it may not be imitated generally, it would seem that, if a man desired to be accompanied to the altar by his very best friend, he could not possibly make a more appropriate selection than to choose the woman who gave him birth, who trained him in childhood, lavished upon him the bountiful riches of a mother's heart, and during her declining years, pays to him the tribute of constant thought and anxiety for his welfare.

The Chicago Record-Herald boasts that at present we have the largest per capita circulation on record. The Record-Herald says: "According to the treasury statement the amount of money in circulation in the United States on November 1 was \$2,246,300,542. On an estimated population of 78,211,000 this was equal to \$28.72 per capita, which is the highest point the circulation has ever reached. This circulation consists of the following kinds of money, all as good as gold: Gold coin, \$633,858,471; gold certificates, \$281,678,659; standard silver dollars, \$73,113,520; silver certificates, \$441,810,337; subsidiary silver, \$83,999,351; treasury notes of 1890, \$41,384,614; United States notes, \$338,781,028; national bank notes, \$351,674,562. It is a noteworthy fact that the money in circulation November 1, 1901, was \$107,119,130 greater than one year ago, despite the fact that there was a reduction of over \$24,000,000 of treasury notes of 1890 outstanding. The chief increase was in gold and silver certificates and national bank notes." It will be remembered that during the discussion of the money question in 1896 the champions of the single gold standard assured us that we had plenty of money. And yet here is a gold standard organ pointing gleefully to the fact that on November 1, 1901, we had \$107,000,000 more in circulation than on November 1, 1900, and this in spite of the fact that "there was a reduction of over \$24,000,000 of treasury notes of 1890 outstanding." It will be observed that the Record says: "The chief increase was in gold and silver certificates and in national bank notes." It also boasts that all this money is "good as gold." The standard silver dollars and silver certificates aggregating more than half a billion of dollars, are not redeemable in gold. The silver certificates are redeemable in silver dollars while the silver dollars are not redeemable at all. It is an old question, but nevertheless will bear repetition: "Why is this half a billion dollars, representative wholly of silver money, as good as gold?" It would also be in order for the champions of the single gold standard to explain why they are so proud of an increase in the circulation, when they assured us before the increase that we had plenty of money?